

Mayor and Council Offices

Mark Dion

Mayor

January 20, 2026



Testimony of Mark Dion, Mayor of the City of Portland,
In Support of
**LD 2042, An Act to Eliminate the Requirement for Municipalities to Provide Public Notice
in a Newspaper**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

State and Local Government, my name is Mark Dion, Mayor of Portland and I write to provide testimony in support of LD 2042 on behalf of the City of Portland.

After discussion with the City Council Legislative and Nominating Committee and consultation with our City Clerk and other staff, the City of Portland supports this legislation. Current statutory requirements for print-based public notices represent a significant fiscal burden on our municipal budget. Last year, the City was required to spend approximately \$50,000 on print noticing across multiple department budgets including the City Clerk, Finance, Housing and Economic Development, and Planning and Urban Development. Certain items, such as the full text of Citizen Initiatives, would remain subject to newspaper publication requirements mandated in our City Charter.

Removing the state level mandate for many print notices and allowing informationally identical notices to be made online would allow the City to reduce administrative staff time and municipal expenditures on noticing while maintaining a high standard of transparency through effective and modern communication tools.

For these reasons, the City of Portland respectfully urges the Committee to support this proposal.

With appreciation for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Dion", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Dion

Mayor

City of Portland, Maine